

PATENT--NO FEE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

FULVIO BOLDRINI

Serial No.: 10/083,321

Filed: February 26, 2002

For: **METHOD AND UNIT FOR
FORMING A TOBACCO BEAD**

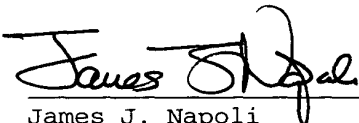
Attorney Docket No. 20022/38268

Group Art Unit: 1731

Examiner: Unassigned

) I hereby certify that this
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) addressed to:
) Commissioner for Patents
) Washington, D.C. 20231.

) Dated: **September 16, 2002**

) 
) James J. Napoli
) Registration No. 32,361
) Attorney for Applicants

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to his duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicant hereby brings to the examiner's attention patents that may be material to the examination of the above-identified application. Therefore, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98, applicant encloses a completed Form PTO-1449 listing the possibly pertinent patents and a copy of each patent.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted more than three months after the filing date of the above-identified application, and, to applicant's knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, under 37 C.F.R.

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§1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement shall be considered by the Patent Office.

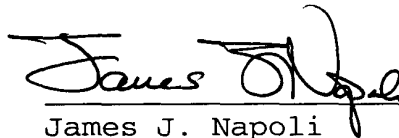
The Commissioner, however, is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required during the pendency of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A duplicate copy of this Transmittal is enclosed herewith.

A copy of the European Search Report is enclosed for the convenience of the examiner and to complete the file.

Respectfully submitted,

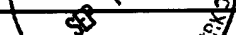
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN

By

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James J. Napoli", is written over a horizontal line.

James J. Napoli
(Registration No. 32,361)
Attorneys for Applicants
6300 Sears Tower
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 474-6300

Chicago, Illinois
September 16, 2002

Form 1449PTO  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/083,321
				Filing Date	February 26, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Fulvio Boldrini
				Group Art Unit	1731
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
				Attorney Docket Number	20022/38268
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY
		4,693,262	09/15/87
		4,732,164	03/22/88

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY
		2,136,265 (UK)	09/19/84
		2,284,288 (FR)	07/26/77
		1,432,649 (DE)	12/15/65
		3631227 (DE)	07/04/89
		0399951 (EPO)	02/04/92
		0 974 276 (EPO)	01/26/00

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.